

1981. She has had 13 surgeries on her eyes with little success.

In her lifetime she has enjoyed many activities such as gardening, baking and still enjoys playing the organ. Due to the failure of her eyesight, she has memorized 56 selections.

Her present residence has been her home for 67 years.

I ask that my colleagues rise and join me today in wishing Inis a happy birthday as she continues to grace us with her rich, full presence in Tennessee.

TEXAS H. CON. RES. 79

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, at the request of the Secretary of State of the State of Texas, I am officially entering House Concurrent Resolution 79, as passed by the 81st Legislature, Regular Session, 2009 of the State of Texas, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas, Border communities, such as Laredo, contend with heightened responsibilities in the world today, and since the advent of the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1994, Laredo has become the busiest United States port of entry from Mexico and the sixth-largest customs district in the country, with more than \$167 billion in total trade in 2007; while the heavy flow of international commerce is a boon to the local economy, it presents tremendous challenges to the first responders who protect the state and the nation as well as their own community; and

Whereas, The Bureau of Transportation Statistics calculated that more than 1.5 million trucks and 300,000 rail containers crossed through Laredo in 2006, and according to Texas Department of Transportation estimates, truck tonnage will increase by some 250 percent by 2030; about half of this cargo includes hazardous material, and more than 60 million square feet of warehouse space in the city also contains significant amounts of hazardous materials, creating a tempting target for terrorists and enormous potential for a disaster that could not only endanger public health but also disrupt major transportation systems and negatively impact the national economy; and

Whereas, Relatively isolated on its side of the border, Laredo is 150 miles from the nearest sizable U.S. city, and its police, fire, and public health personnel are the primary emergency responders for a region of more than 3,000 square miles; this includes a long stretch of the Rio Grande, which is the primary drinking water source for Laredo, Nuevo Laredo, and other communities in the Rio Grande Valley, making swift response to any contamination extremely critical; in addition, the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission has recognized the region as among those most vulnerable to perils such as bioterrorism and epidemics; and

Whereas, The Laredo Police Department has increased vigilance over border activity since the attacks of September 11, 2001, and confronts an escalating threat from violent international drug traffickers, who have been linked to terrorism; the fire department responds to a wide range of emergencies along the Rio Grande, from the rescue or recovery of individuals who have attempted to cross into the United States to bomb threats; and

Whereas, The emergency response system in Laredo requires a higher level of funding to ensure public safety and meet homeland security imperatives; for instance, the city has only one hazardous materials response unit, purchased in 1991 and long overdue for upgrades; it lacks a detection system for chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosive weapons, as well as for quick assessment and management of industrial accidents; among other urgent needs are enhanced police staffing, improved radio coverage in remote areas, and construction of a secure regional emergency operations center where safety personnel and local, state, and federal government officials can coordinate decisions and resources in a crisis; and

Whereas, With an estimated population of 217,000, Laredo is a much smaller city than other major United States ports; its own budget is accordingly limited, and at the same time, its size has been an impediment in the pursuit of federal assistance; homeland security funding formulas currently use census figures rather than threat risk in determining eligibility for such programs as the Urban Areas Security Initiative and Targeted Infrastructure Capability Grants Program, and, as a land port, Laredo is likewise ineligible for the Port Security Grant Program, even though it processes more international shipments than such grant recipients as Mobile, Alabama, and Lake Charles, Louisiana; and

Whereas, Laredo, as the nation's second-busiest land gateway, shoulders unique law enforcement, public safety, and national security burdens far out of proportion to the size of its population; increased federal funding is necessary to strengthen first response where local agencies with strained budgets are responsible for protecting our nation's critical infrastructure and addressing international threats; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to refine Department of Homeland Security policy to consider risk levels as well as population size in assessing the financial needs of first responders in border communities along the international boundary created by the Rio Grande; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Texas secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to the congress with the request that this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

DAVID DEWHURST,
President of the Senate.

JOE STRAUS,
Speaker of the House.

ROBERT HANEY,
Chief Clerk of the House.

PATSY SPAW,
Secretary of the Senate.

Approved: RICK PERRY, *Governor.*

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican standards on disclosure for Mem-

ber project requests, I am submitting the following information regarding projects I support for inclusion in H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010.

Congressman PETER J. ROSKAM: H.R. 3183, Army Corps of Engineers, Construction account for the continuation of work on the Des Plaines River, IL. The entity to receive the \$3,300,000 in funding for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District, 111 N. Canal Street, Suite 600, Chicago, IL 60606. It is my understanding that the funding would be used to continue work on the Des Plaines River projects authorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 (Public Law No. 106-53). Funding for this project would be used to continue Phase I of the authorized Des Plaines River Project. Specifically, construction will move forward on the expansion of Big Bend Lake and lowering the normal lake level to obtain an additional 587 acre-feet of storage. Material excavated from the expansion must be removed from the site. Two storm sewer lines, which currently empty into Big Bend Lake, a 96-inch and 24-inch, will be rerouted directly to the Des Plaines River. Recurrent flooding along the Des Plaines River causes an estimated average annual damage of more than \$25 million (69 percent traffic damages, 20 percent residential damages, 8 percent commercial/industrial/public damages, 3 percent emergency services costs). Statutory authorization for this project is provided in the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-53), and a Project Cooperation Agreement has been signed by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Congressman PETER J. ROSKAM: H.R. 3183, Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Solar Technology account for Solar Lighting for the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. The entity to receive the \$300,000 funding for this project is the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, 3S580 Naperville Road, Wheaton, IL 60189. It is my understanding that the funding would be used to install an on-grid solar panel energy collection system to provide power for lighting of one of the entire Danada Forest Preserve Campuses. The Danada Forest Preserve is a high visibility public facility that is used for meetings, wedding events, youth equestrian programs and a soon to be visitor center with native plant demonstration gardens. This campus is home to the Danada House, an equestrian facility, and staff offices. The lighting project is necessary to facilitate night programming while improving safety and security. The solar lighting project would be an educational component that would tie well into the sustainability initiatives currently being proposed for the entire facility. Additionally, the project would serve as a helpful demonstration of solar technology and capacity in the Chicagoland region.

Congressman PETER J. ROSKAM: H.R. 3183, Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Building Technologies account for a Green Roof for the DuPage County Administration Building. The entity to receive the \$250,000 in funding for this project is DuPage County, 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL 60187. It is my understanding that the funding would be used to replace a roof in need of repair with one that is environmentally friendly and energy efficient. The objective for implementation of Green Roof